

**DECLARATION - Utility Or Design Patent Application**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) of any PCT International application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the matter provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S Parent Application Number	PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
-------------------------------	-------------------	---------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:  Customer Number

or  
 Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Place Customer Number Bar Code Label Here

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Ronald P. Kananen	24,104	Brian K. Dutton	47,255
David T. Nikaido	22,663	Richard D. Grauer	22,388
Ralph T. Rader	28,772	Michael D. Fishman	31,951
Joseph V. Coppola, Sr.	33,373	Robert S. Green	41,800
Michael B. Stewart	36,018	Eugene G. Byrd	47,361
Alexander D. Rabinovich	37,425	Kristin L. Murphy	41,212
Kevin D. Rutherford	40,412	David K. Benson	42,314
Glenn E. Forbis	40,610	Carl Schaukowitch	29,211
Anna M. Shih	36,372		
Matthew J. Russo	41,282		

Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to  Customer Number or Bar Code Label 23353 or  Correspondence Address below

Attorney	Ronald P. Kananen, Esq.				
Firm Name	Rader, Fishman & Grauer PLLC				
Address	1233 20 <sup>th</sup> Street, N.W, Suite 501				
City, State, Zip	Washington, D.C. 20036				
Country	US	Telephone	202-955-3750	Fax	202-955-3751

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of First Inventor	<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor						
Given Name (first and middle [if any])			Family Name or Surname				
Xavier			MICHEL				
Inventor's Signature					Dated		
Residence: City	Chiba	State		Country	JAPAN	Citizenship	Japanese
Post Office Address	c/o Sony Corporation , 7-35, Kitashingawa 6-Chome						
City	Shinagawa-Ku	State	Tokyo	Zip		Country	JAPAN

Name of Second Inventor	<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor						
Given Name (first and middle [if any])			Family Name or Surname				
Inventor's Signature					Dated		
Residence: City		State		Country		Citizenship	
Post Office Address							
City		State		Zip		Country	

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION</b>		<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	SON-2322
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Xavier MICHEL
<b>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration submitted with or initial filing		<input type="checkbox"/> Declaration submitted after initial filing	Application No.
		Filing Date	December 31, 2001
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (only if one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD, PROGRAM, AND  
RECORDING MEDIUM***(Title of the Invention)*

the specification of which

is attached hereto  
or  
 was filed on \_\_, as United States Application Number or PCT International Application Number: \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code §119 (a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached YES	NO
P2001-006365	JAPAN	01/15/01		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number (s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.